

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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DRAFTED BY EB/AN:AJRIMAS:DAP

APPROVED BY EB/AN:RABROWN

CAB - A. FISCH

ARA/ECP - D. TAHER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

UNCLAS STATE 229603

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, JA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: AMERICAN AIRLINES APPLICATION FOR
CARIBBEAN ROUTES

REF: MARTINIQUE 392

1. AMERICAN AIRLINES ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1976 FILED WITH CAB APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION AUTHORITY TO OPERATE DIRECT FLIGHTS BETWEEN NEW YORK AND GUADELOUPE/MARTINIQUE, AS WELL AS BETWEEN NEW YORK AND JAMAICA, AND NEW YORK AND THE BAHAMAS, FOR AS LONG AS PAN AM'S SERVICE IN THESE MARKETS IS SUSPENDED. THE AIRLINE REQUESTED THE CAB TO ANNOUNCE ITS DECISION BY NOVEMBER 1, 1976, SO THAT TIMELY PREPARATIONS FOR SERVICE COULD BE MADE. ON SEPTEMBER 9 DEPARTMENT SENT LETTER TO CHAIRMAN OF CAB REGISTERING SUPPORT FOR THE APPLICATION. IN ITS LETTER, DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THE HIGH LEVEL OF INTEREST BY RESPECTIVE CARIBBEAN AUTHORITIES IN MAINTAINING ADEQUATE AIRLINE LINKS WITH
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U.S. IN ORDER TO DEVELOP TOURISM, AND EMPHASIZED LACK OF

SUFFICIENT U.S. AIRLINE PARTICIPATION IN SERVING CARIBBEAN TERRITORIES IN QUESTION.

2. OTHER STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF AMERICAN AIRLINES HAVE BEEN FILED BY THE APPROPRIATE MINISTRIES OF JAMAICA AND

THE BAHAMAS. ON SEPTEMBER 13 DELTA AIRLINES OBJECTED TO THE BAHAMAS PORTION OF THE APPLICATION, CLAIMING THAT PRESENT LEVELS OF SERVICE ARE ADEQUATE. DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ALL COMMENTS IN THIS CASE IS SEPTEMBER 24.

3. IF GUADELOUPE/MARTINIQUE INTERESTS WISH TO URGE APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION, THEY SHOULD FILE A STATEMENT WITH CAB BEFORE SEPTEMBER 24 DEADLINE. SUCH STATEMENT COULD BE PREPARED AND SUBMITTED EITHER BY WASHINGTON ATTORNEYS REPRESENTING ISLAND INTERESTS OR BY FRENCH EMBASSY/WASHINGTON. INFORMAL VISIT AND DISCUSSIONS BY TOURIST OFFICE DELEGATION WOULD NOT APPEAR TO BE ESPECIALLY PRODUCTIVE SINCE ORAL REPRESENTATIONS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE RECORD OF THE APPLICATION PROCEEDINGS ON BASIS OF WHICH THE BOARD MEMBERS OF THE CAB WILL REACH THEIR DECISION. HABIB

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